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Economic and Social Council

Provisional

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Resumed organizational session for 2003

Provisional summary record of the 10th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 1 May 2003 at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Rosenthal ..... (Guatemala)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*) (E/2003/11, E/2003/12 and E/2003/52)

1. **The President** drew attention to a number of draft proposals contained in document E/2003/11.

Draft decision I: Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations

2. *Draft decision I was adopted.*

Draft decision II: Draft provisional agenda and documentation for the 2003 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and report of the Committee on its 2002 resumed session

3. *Draft decision II was adopted.*

Draft decision III: Applications from indigenous organizations not in consultative status with the Council to participate in the open-ended intersessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights

4. **Mr. Rojas** (Chile) said that he had not fully understood what the Council, by adopting the draft decision, would be authorizing the three indigenous organizations to do. He wondered whether the Council would be departing from existing practice, whether that departure would constitute a precedent and whether the Council had the necessary authority to take such a decision.

5. **The President** said that the three indigenous organizations were seeking to take part in the intersessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples. A decision from the Council was needed to make that participation possible. There were many precedents for such action, as organizations not in consultative status with the Council often wished to attend individual events: one example was the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, in March 2002.

6. **Mr. Scott** (*Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues*) said that in its resolution 1995/32 the Council had established that indigenous organizations not in consultative status could apply to participate in the working group to elaborate a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples and that their applications would be considered by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, which would make a recommendation to the Council. The arrangements covered participation in that working group only, and not participation in any other forum.

7. **The President** said he took it that the Council was satisfied with the clarification from the secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and wished to adopt draft decision III.

8. *It was so decided.*

Letter from the President of the Economic and Social Council to the Secretary-General (continued) (E/2003/12)

9. **The President** recalled that at its meeting on 25 March 2003 the Council had taken note of a letter from the President of the Economic and Social Council to the Secretary-General (E/2003/12) regarding appointments to the Committee on Negotiations with Intergovernmental Agencies. In the interim, Benin, Burundi, the Republic of the Congo, Ghana, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mozambique and Uganda had asked to become members of that Committee.

10. He took it that the Council wished to endorse the request of Benin, Burundi, the Republic of the Congo, Ghana, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mozambique and Uganda to be appointed members of the Committee on Negotiations with Intergovernmental Agencies.

11. *It was so decided.*

Provisional agenda for the second session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (E/2003/52)

12. **The President** suggested that the Council should to take note of the provisional agenda for the second session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

13. *It was so decided.*

Organization of work

14. **The President** drew attention to the background information note on honorariums payable to members of the International Narcotics Control Board which had been circulated to members of the Council. The President of the International Narcotics Control Board was in effect requesting the General Assembly to

reconsider its decision on honorariums payable to members of the Board, who were elected by the Council. Although the issue of requesting the General Assembly to reconsider its decisions was a delicate one, the Office of Legal Affairs had been asked for its view and had seen merit in the case. The Council should examine the matter in detail.

15. **The President** said he took it that the Council wished the issue of honorariums payable to members of the International Narcotics Control Board to be added to the agenda of its forthcoming substantive session.

16. *It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 10.45 p.m.